

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
July 5, 2011
7:00 P.M.**

MAYOR JEFFREY E. GRAHAM PRESIDING

PRESENT: **COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS
COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER JR.
COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO
COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH
MAYOR GRAHAM**

ALSO PRESENT: **MARY M. CORRIVEAU, CITY MANAGER
CITY ATTORNEY ROBERT SLYE**

City staff present: Ken Mix, Gene Hayes, Jim Mills, Doug Osborn

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- 1- Amendment No. 80 to the Management And Management Confidential Pay Plan
- 2- Authorizing the Establishment of a Sewer Fund Capital Reserve Fund
- 3- Readopting Fiscal Year 2011-12 General Fund Budget
- 4- Approving Watertown Golf Club, Inc., Watertown Savings Bank, and City of Watertown, Memorandum of Lease Agreement and Notice and Cure Agreement
- 5- Authorizing Acceptance of New York Safety and Health Hazard Abatement Board, Occupational Safety and Health Training and Education Program Grant
- 6- Laid Over Under the Rules – Ordinance Establishing Water Rates
- 7- Laid Over Under the Rules – Ordinance Approving the Zone Change Request Submitted by Patrick J. Scordo, changing the approved zoning classification of a 13.618 acre portion of Parcel 13-23-101 from Residence A to Commercial, and a 2.485 acre non-zoned portion of Parcel 13-23-102.1 to Commercial
- 8- Alcohol Franchisee Requests, Jefferson County Agricultural Society
- 9- Board and Commission Appointments
- 10- Request for Funding, Jefferson County Historical Society
- 11- Woolworth Building Update
- 12- Letter from Internal Medicine of Northern New York, P.C.
- 13- F. P. Flower Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2011
- 14- Request for Tax Sale Certificate Assignments

COMPLETE REPORTS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Meeting opened with a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 20, 2011, was dispensed and accepted as written by motion of Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Burns and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

COMMUNICATIONS

From Chelsie Sargent in support of a dog park in the City of Watertown.

ABOVE PLACED ON FILE

From Dr. Frank Rohde on behalf of two of his patients who live on Casey Street regarding the stress caused from excessive noise from Audio Arsenal.

ABOVE PLACED ON FILE

Claim against the City was received from Kristie Anzalone for damages received as a result of an alleged false arrest.

REFERRED TO THE BOARD OF AUDIT

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Gordon Main, 217 N. Pleasant Street, addressed the chair and read from a prepared statement regarding his request for a variance of Municipal Code 293-21 allowing him to park on the margin in front of his home.

RESOLUTIONS

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS

WHEREAS with the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget, the City Council of the City of Watertown appropriated a raise for Management and Management Confidential employees in the amount of one percent (1.0%),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves Amendment No. 80 to the Management and Management Confidential Pay Plan, in order to establish the annual compensation for the positions listed below effective July 1, 2011,

<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Police Chief	\$92,672
Fire Chief	\$84,840
Deputy Fire Chief	\$78,275

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

Prior to the vote on the resolution, Mayor Graham commented that the Chief's salary would be set at a one percent raise based on the elimination of Municipal Law 207-m.

Council Member Butler noted that based on 207-m, the salary would have been set at \$93,426.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the Fiscal Year 2011-12 Sewer Fund budget appropriated \$250,000 to be transferred to a Capital Reserve Fund, and

WHEREAS the City does not currently have an established Sewer Fund Capital Reserve Fund, and

WHEREAS Section 6-c of the General Municipal Law authorizes the City Council to establish a Capital Reserve Fund,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a Sewer Fund Capital Reserve Fund be established to finance future capital improvements.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS

WHEREAS on June 1, 2011 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12, of which \$38,023,157 was appropriated for the General Fund, and

WHEREAS on the City has received donations in the amount of \$25,240 to pay for the costs of the Symphony Syracuse concert held on July 1, 2011 in Thompson Park, and

WHEREAS such donations and expenditures were not included in the 2011-12 Adopted General Fund Budget,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York that it hereby re-adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12 in the total amount of \$ 38,048,397 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that the following adjustments be included in the re-adopted General Fund Budget.

Revenues

A 2705 Gifts and Donations	<u>\$ 25,240</u>
Total	<u>\$ 25,240</u>

Expenditures

A 7110.0430 Thompson Park – Contracted Services	<u>\$ 25,240</u>
Total	<u>\$ 25,240</u>

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS on December 18, 2006, the City Council approved the Lease Agreement between the City of Watertown and the Watertown Golf Club, Inc. for the lease of lands at Thompson Park, and

WHEREAS Watertown Savings Bank is now loaning \$250,000 to the Watertown Golf Club for improvements to these facilities, and

WHEREAS Watertown Savings Bank is asking that they, as the Mortgagee be provided with notice and opportunity to cure any defaults under the terms of the Agreement between the City and the Watertown Golf Club, Inc.,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown authorizes and directs City Manager Mary M. Corriveau to execute the Memorandum of Lease Agreement, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Jeffrey E. Graham, is hereby authorized and directed to execute a Notice and Cure Agreement among the City of Watertown, Watertown Golf Club, Inc., and Watertown Savings Bank on behalf of the City, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER WHOM ABSTAINED.

Prior to the vote on the resolution, Council Member Macaluso asked for clarification on this matter and inquired if the City was responsible for this entity.

Mrs. Corriveau explained that if the Watertown Golf Club were to default on their loan, both the Golf Club and the bank would be on notice. She added that the City would not be responsible for the loan and noted that this is the same situation as with the Ultimate Goal. Mrs. Corriveau noted that the City owns the property and would become the operator if the Golf Club were to not comply with the lease agreement.

Mayor Graham welcomed Mayor Joseph M. Butler to the meeting.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the State of New York Safety and Health Hazard Abatement Board is accepting applications for funding to support occupational and safety health training for public and private employees, and

WHEREAS each year the City of Watertown provides occupational training opportunities for its employees, and

WHEREAS the Superintendent of Public Works Eugene P. Hayes prepared an application for funding to provide the City with an opportunity to expand the number of people receiving the training and expand the training programs offered, and

WHEREAS the City has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$14,143 to provide training for our employees,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby authorizes the acceptance of the grant in the amount of \$14,134 from the State of New York Safety and Health Hazard Abatement Board, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Mary M. Corriveau is hereby authorized and directed to execute the grant agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown, a copy of which is attached a made a part of this resolution.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER JR. AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

ORDINANCES

THE ORDINANCE “ESTABLISHING WATER RATES” WAS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL.
(Introduced to Council on June 1, 2011; appears in its entirety on pages 140-141 of the 2011 Minutes Book).

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS TO TAKE THE ORDINANCE FROM THE TABLE.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER VOTING NAY.

Council Member Smith noted that Council Member Butler brought up a good point to unify the rates which may give larger businesses a bit of a cushion and said he is willing to support the proposal as a step toward eliminating the third tier. He added that it will affect some businesses but will not hit them too hard.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH TO AMEND THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE TO REFLECT OPTION #6 FOR WATER RATES.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTER

Attorney Slye pointed out that option six is a complete change.

Mayor Graham suggested defeating this ordinance if members would like to pursue option six.

Attorney Slye noted that those whom introduced and seconded this ordinance would withdraw those motions.

Council Member Smith asked if, according to procedure, it could be amended.

Attorney Slye answered that it would be proposing a different scheme.

Mayor Graham again suggested defeating this as the option is different than one week ago.

Council Member Butler noted that he supports the philosophy behind option six.

Mrs. Corriveau wished for clarification on what was to be amended.

Council Member Smith replied that the ordinance will show option six rates for water.

Mrs. Corriveau pointed out that that adds back in the third tier.

Council Member Butler stated that option six has not changed but rather the spread sheet was not correct.

Mr. Mills added that the rate and tiers are identical to the information provided last week.

Mayor Graham reviewed the options and their affects on consumers and said he would like to see a vote on the ordinance that is before Council. He said it is up to Council Members to defeat it and would respect the results.

VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING AMENDMENT WITH COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER AND COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH VOTING YEA, AND COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS, COUNCIL MEMBER MACALUSO AND MAYOR GRAHAM VOTING NAY.

COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH WITHDREW HIS INTRODUCTION OF THE ORDINANCE.

Attorney Slye reminded Council that the Charter says any ordinance cannot be voted on on the night it was introduced without unanimous consent. He added that it would require a new introduction and second and that both members who placed the first introduction and second must withdraw the original motions.

Council Member Butler pointed out the savings that would be incurred by the option but stressed that the correctional facility would see a decline in rates by 31%, which he noted was unfair.

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT FOR COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH AND COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER VOTING NAY.

THE ORDINANCE “APPROVING THE ZONE CHANGE REQUEST SUBMITTED BY PATRICK J. SCORDO, CHANGING THE APPROVED ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF A 13.618 ACRE PORTION OF PARCEL 13-23-101 FROM RESIDENCE A TO COMMERCIAL, AND A 2.485 ACRE NON-ZONED PORTION OF PARCEL 13-23-102.1 TO COMMERCIAL” WAS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL. (Introduced to Council on May 16, 2011; Public Hearing was held June 6, 2011, at 7:30 p.m.; appears in its entirety on page 119 of the 2011 Minutes Book).

Mayor Graham commented about inquiries regarding moving the new Samaritan facility to the Town of Watertown and did not know if a final decision has been reached. He remarked that there is a possibility that it may not be developed at this site and asked Council for their thoughts.

Council Member Smith noted that if the facility were to change locations it would affect the grant awarded to them.

Mayor Graham said that it has been requested that Council not act on this ordinance due to wetland issues.

Council Member Butler suggested inviting Tom Carman to discuss this topic with Council.

Mayor Graham noted that if the residents of the facility live inside the City, there are a host of services available to them.

Mrs. Corriveau said no determination had been made as of last week.

Council Member Smith asked if a deposit is required when purchasing a property owned by the City.

Mrs. Corriveau noted this was a private sale.

Mayor Graham concurred with Council Member Butler on inviting Mr. Carman to discuss the topic.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR GRAHAM TO TABLE THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

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COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

Tax Sale Certificate

Mayor Graham suggested the individual whom is in this process for various properties should extricate himself from the process.

Council Member Macaluso and Council Member Smith said they agree.

Mrs. Corriveau questioned in what way and whom would step in.

Mayor Graham suggested exercising the right to take the title for the Masonic Temple.

Council Member Burns concurred about adding the Masonic Temple into discussions. She added that if the City controls the destiny of Mercy there is a better chance of turning the property around but does not recommend doing so unless there is concurrence.

Council Member Smith questioned asking the individual to give up the certificate.

Attorney Slye replied it can be purchased from him.

Mayor Graham inquired about signing off on the certificate for no money.

Council Member Smith said he would not agree to pay someone who took a risk and that the City is not here to subsidize him.

Mayor Graham noted that the City, in essence, would become the landlord.

Mrs. Corriveau said the City would be the owner of the property.

Mayor Graham stated that his position in that chain serves no purpose and it is reasonable to ask him to relinquish titles.

Mrs. Corriveau said he could be asked to relinquish future earnings and GE Capital could step in and pay the taxes.

Council Member Burns inquired about asking him to pay the outstanding water bill.

Mrs. Corriveau remarked that the bill was levied into the taxes. She commented that if the SMC project gets delayed the tenants at Mercy have no place to go.

Mayor Graham stated he does not want to vote on doing anything with these properties.

Council Member Smith suggested putting them back up for auction.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that there was just recently an auction and this individual came in late. She told Council she would get a report back to them on the matter.

Alcohol Franchisee Requests, Jefferson County Agricultural Society

Mrs. Corriveau told Council that something was needed in the affirmative to authorize the sale of alcohol at the upcoming events.

Council Member Smith said to move ahead.

Council Member Butler concurred.

Council Member Burns concurred to move ahead with the sale of alcohol at the Reba McIntyre concert on July 23, 2011, to be held at the ball field. She questioned who would be performing at the concert during the fair and what type of wrestling would be held.

Mrs. Corriveau replied she did not know who was performing.

Council Member Burns noted she cannot approve something if she does not know what it is.

Mayor Graham said this issue has come up repeatedly and that he shares Council Member Burns' concerns. He mentioned that during the Tragically Hip concert, a DPW truck was stolen and that this is a big problem in his opinion. He noted that he had spoken with the State Police and some people feel the keys should have been removed from the truck while not in use. Mayor Graham also reminded Council that there were some establishments which just lost their liquor licenses over serving visibly intoxicated people. The fact that the incident happened in the first place, he said, is a serious matter and quipped that it is sad when the bar owner has to be the adult in the room. He noted that many who went to the concert had a great time but these events have become increasingly large and popular. Mayor Graham said that

other locations across the country have addressed issues regarding this and added that he is uncomfortable with the fact that 100 kegs were sold while simultaneously touting family events. He added that this event had \$61,000 in beer sales and said thankfully no one was hurt. He supported approving the Reba concert.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS TO GRANT A FRANCHISE TO THE JEFFERSON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY TO SELL BEER AND WINE AT THE REBA MCINTYRE CONCERT HELD AT THE BALL FIELD ON JULY 23, 2011.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MACALUSO

RULES WERE WAIVED BY MOTION OF MAYOR GRAHAM, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEAS EXCEPT COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER VOTING NAY.

Council Member Smith said he went to the Tragically Hip concert and thought, all in all, people behaved themselves fairly well. He suggested either having no events with alcohol or recognizing that people are going to do stupid things.

Mayor Graham said, from his perspective, the essence of licensure is the ability to control the product and suggested acting on the Reba concert.

Council Member Burns commented that she does not want to get into anecdotal remarks as an elected official and understands how the vehicle could have been stolen, but stressed her concern is that the City is very fortunate that the individual who stole the truck did not kill someone. She added that DPW employees are very hard working individuals and stressed the importance that nothing like this happens again.

Council Member Butler expressed his concern over the incident but said he would approve the Reba concert.

Council Member Macaluso commented that in her opinion the crowd at the Reba concert would be different and more respectful than at the Tragically Hip concert.

Council Member Butler stated he thought there was inconsistency with this policy and if the City is against selling alcohol then do not sell it at all.

Council Member Burns said she has no problem with that but does not want to diminish profits for Joe Rich and the DPAO. She added that she does not like having to sign off on something unknown to be held on July 12 when it is already July 5.

Mayor Graham noted that a special use permit from the state liquor authority has to be filed 15 days from the day of the event. He said there is some level of unfairness but the City has made a commitment to Joe Rich and added that he agreed with Council Member Burns. He noted that it seems as though individuals have discovered how much money can be made on events as these and said he wants a vote on the Reba franchise.

Council Member Butler asked what the Mayor is proposing.

Mayor Graham said he does not want all three events grouped together and noted that certain requirements and scheduling need to come much further in advance of the intended event in the future. He agreed that the Reba concert would be much different in nature than the recent concert.

Council Member Smith commented that he concurs with Council Member Burns in that the City should know who will be performing at the concert during the fair by now. He spoke about the need to treat people fairly and to try to make events go smoother with fewer problems but disagreed with the notion that the Reba concert will be more tame.

Council Member Macaluso said that Council Member Smith must not have spoken to the same people she spoke to. She agreed that not knowing what the other concert is about is not specific enough to cast a vote.

Mayor Graham suggested making sure the liquor licenses are posted at the appropriate locations on the day of the event and said he is not sure that was done properly in the past.

Council Member Smith agreed that is something which can be improved upon.

Mayor Graham said the issue is that the individual should be accountable to the system reflecting their ability to conduct commerce and an on-the-fly type permit provides no long term accountability. He suggested that for future events, a catering permit is obtained for the day. He added that at the end of the season Attorney Slye suggested speaking with someone more versed on the issue.

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER TO GRANT A FRANCHISE TO THE JEFFERSON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY TO SELL ALCOHOL AT THE WRESTLING MATCH TO BE HELD AT THE BALL FIELD ON JULY 15, 2011.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH

RULES WERE WAIVED BY MOTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

Council Member Burns asked if the City Manager had any information to share regarding these events.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that the wrestling match is to be held on Friday, July 15.

Council Member Burns inquired what type of wrestling was to be held, whether it be high school or professional.

Council Member Butler said he would guess it is not high school wrestling.

Mrs. Corriveau reminded Council that this resolution is to consider the events in the ball field.

Mayor Graham asked what options the Council have.

Attorney Slye replied that the option is to grant a franchise for events at the ball field.

Mrs. Corriveau noted that there are fees set in the City Code for the County Fair.

Attorney Slye added that the Fair has liquor liability coverage.

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR, VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT MAYOR GRAHAM VOTING NAY.

Board and Commission Appointments

Council Member Butler told Council that Mr. Sovie will serve another term and that he is waiting to hear back from Mr. Fitzpatrick. He said he has yet to contact Mr. Lawlor.

Mrs. Corriveau noted that Mr. Sovie represents the Town of Watertown and asked if Council would like her to reach out to them.

Council Member Butler replied that either way, it is not an issue.

Mayor Graham suggested letting Mrs. Corriveau know when Council Member Butler had heard back from the members.

Request for Funding, Jefferson County Historical Society

Council Member Smith inquired how much is in the bed tax.

Mr. Mills replied he was not sure.

Mrs. Corriveau said \$50,000 was appropriated in the publicity account and \$42,000 to \$43,000 was appropriated to cover Bernier & Carr for the aviary.

Council Member Smith said he has no problem giving \$5,000 more if it is available.

Mrs. Corriveau said \$5,000 was appropriated in 2010-2011 and \$3,500 was submitted in receipts.

Council Member Burns explained that more receipts are coming in and that they do not get the money in advance. She added that the total could be more than \$5,000 due to advertising for big events as the Heritage Days and their support of the Box Lunch Revue.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$5,000 TO THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR MARKETING.

Mrs. Corriveau noted that a public benefit services agreement would need to be drawn up.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER

RULES WERE WAIVED BY MOTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

Council Member Burns inquired if abstaining from the vote would affect the outcome.

She was told it would not.

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS WHO ABSTAINED.

Woolworth Building Update

Mr. Mix told Council there could be some changes to the project and the type of development has to be approved. He noted that the upper floors will be residential with the lower floor being retail.

Mayor Graham inquired about acquiring the Iron Block/Woodruff site and the status of the bus station.

Mrs. Corriveau said plans have not gotten as far as relocation of the bus station.

Council Member Smith asked if the taxes were up to date.

Mrs. Corriveau replied they are not.

Mr. Mills noted that the City was the bidder.

Mayor Graham said that was a good point raised by Council Member Smith.

Council Member Butler asked how many parking spots would be added.

Mr. Mix answered between 20 and 30 parking spaces.

Council Member Butler replied that could be a problem if the building holds 60 apartments.

Mr. Mix told Council that the developer will continue working to provide adequate parking and that the proposed lot is a surface lot.

Council Member Smith noted that the 485b is a good program.

Council Member Burns asked when the information was received.

Mr. Mix replied that the last correspondence came in on June 22 and that he saw it on June 27 when he returned from vacation.

Council Member Burns commented that she would like more information on this issue.

Mayor Graham stated that he is glad the project is moving ahead but that the devil is always in the details, such as the bus station and the PILOT agreement.

Audio Arsenal

Mayor Graham inquired if there are any court cases on this topic.

Attorney Slye replied there are three cases pending and waiting on decisions.

Mayor Graham questioned if the letter from Dr. Rohde on behalf of his patients should be forwarded to the State Department of Health based on the premise that a doctor's opinion is now involved. He noted that the ordinance addresses noise as a nuisance and the letter states a detriment to health. Mayor Graham suggested forwarding the letter to the local health officer as well.

Parking on Margins

Council Member Burns commented that she would need to look at the site on North Pleasant Street in person before commenting further.

Mayor Graham said he agreed and there is a question about safe passage on the street when vehicles are parked on both sides of the thoroughfare. He mentioned a complaint he received about the narrowing of Morrison Street after curbs were added.

Exposure at Thompson Park Pool

Council Member Burns raised concerns regarding an incident that occurred at the Thompson Park pool at approximately 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 4, 2011. Council Member Burns reviewed the sequence of events and what happened with Council and noted that police were called after 6:00 p.m. when the individual tried to come back to the pool area. She expressed concern over the lapse in time between the incident and when police were called.

Mrs. Corriveau told Council she did not have the details but that Parks & Recreation had communication with the Police Department.

Council Member Burns stated she has concerns as a mother and as a member of the Council, especially when Parks & Recreation is wrangling with other issues. She commented that procedure should include notifying the City Manager when a crime is committed on City property.

Mayor Graham noted that there are times when a crime is committed and no publicity is garnered. He added that he would like to know more details.

Council Member Burns commented that this type of incident cannot be taken lightly and that a similar incident has occurred at the Library. She questioned if an employee made a unilateral decision.

Council Member Smith noted that the people working at the pools during the summer are young lifeguards who do receive job training.

Council Member Burns questioned if training was provided and if employees are versed in what is a police matter.

Mr. Hayes replied that most of the summer employees are 16 to 22 years old and Mr. St. Croix handles the training. Mr. Hayes admitted that he was not familiar with the incident, but had he been notified the police would have been contacted.

Mayor Graham said that although this may not be huge in the scheme of things, it is provocative, as is the truck being stolen. He said the bottom line is that it is important to know about these things.

Mr. Hayes told Council he was notified about the truck being stolen at 11:30 p.m. on Friday and had received a call on Saturday morning regarding a City police report.

Mayor Graham recalled an incident in the 1990s in which a DPW truck was involved in a one vehicle accident and stressed the importance of getting the information out to the public when a situation arises because no one likes to be surprised. He added that the truck was never listed as stolen from the concert.

Council Member Burns noted that the incident was reported to Mr. Hayes at 11:30 and questioned if he contacted the City Manager.

Mr. Hayes replied that the police were handling it and by the next morning the vehicle had been recovered.

Mayor Graham commented that there was a police report issued in both incidents.

Council Member Burns reiterated that it is not the fact of who stole the truck but that it was stolen in the first place and how it happened. She again said how thankful she is that no one was hurt.

Mr. Hayes acknowledged he was remiss in not letting the Manager know and will make sure that the Manager knows about any future incident.

Council Member Burns noted that she is not trying to single out Mr. Hayes.

Mr. Hayes replied that he stands corrected.

Lawn Signs

Council Member Butler inquired as to how long signs, such as those of landscapers, can be left up on lawns. He noted that they are not to be put in the margins and that signs left on lawns for long periods of time tend to look tacky. He asked if City Codes could remove some of the signs.

Mrs. Corriveau noted that these are similar to the political signs during election season and sometimes homeowners are contacted to remove the signs.

Council Member Smith suggested contacting the various companies involved and informing them of the City Code.

Massey/Holcomb Street Property

Council Member Butler suggested initiating a business-adoption program for that piece of land to improve its appearance. He inquired about drawing up a resolution for that plan.

Ward Street Property

Council Member Butler asked where the City stands on that topic.

Mrs. Corriveau said the City did an inspection and there are violations which Mr. Moot has until July 11, 2011, to remedy which include removing debris and a vehicle.

Council Member Butler inquired who did the inspection.
Mrs. Corriveau replied that Tom Johnston inspected the premises.

Eddy Street

Council Member Butler inquired about a 50-75 yard section of the street to have repaved.

Council Member Smith noted it is between Boon Street and Breen Avenue.

Council Member Butler said he would like a follow-up on this issue.

Golf Signage

Council Member Butler asked about installing signage to direct patrons to the Watertown Golf Club in Thompson Park and wondered what was preventing that from happening.

Mrs. Corriveau said she spoke with Mayor Butler on the topic and had suggested putting a golf symbol on a way finding sign directing people to the zoo area of the park.

Council Member Butler suggested placing a sign at the Gotham Street entrance to the park.

Mayor Graham noted Council Member Butler raises a good point in that the Watertown Golf Club can be hard to find and recommended putting signs up at all three entrances to the park.

Council Member Burns noted it is similar to the location of Alteri's Bakery in Commerce Park, in that it is hard to find.

Cell Phones

Council Member Butler suggested that no cell phones be allowed in Council Chambers during Council meetings. He added that if someone's cell phone rings during a meeting they should make a contribution to the Soldiers & Sailors Monument fund.

Lighted Signs

Council Member Macaluso noted that she received complaints regarding the lighted signs on trailers and referenced one in the flats.

Mrs. Corriveau remarked that they are legal.

Attorney Slye said Council can propose a law to ban them.

Morrison Street

Mayor Graham suggested looking at the width of this street and the possibility of one-side parking.

Sound Problem

Mayor Graham commented that the sound recording issue for Council meetings has been rectified.

Health Insurance

Mayor Graham commented on considering changes to the management pay and benefit plan and would like a memo for a future meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

Council moved into executive session at 9:04 p.m.

Meeting ended following the end of the executive session.

Amanda C. Lewis
Deputy City Clerk